

## DUST CONTROL PROTOCOL CHECKLIST

August 20, 1998

(major educational messages in bold)



### Visit Two: Basic Dust Education and Dust Control

#### Assessment

- ☐ Do the three-spot vacuum test on the child's bedroom rug (if no rug, do it in the room where the child spends most of his/her time). Please also follow checklist described below. Discuss progress made since last visit (time needed for green light).
- ☐ Halogen light dust demonstration

#### Education

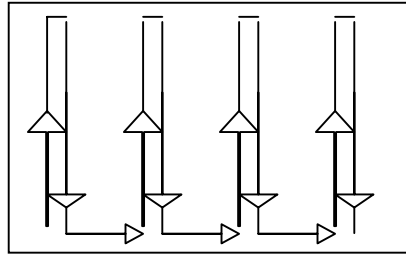
- ☐ **Dust carries many allergens which make asthma worse, such as dust mites, animal dander, mold spores.**
- ☐ **Control of dust is therefore an very important way to help control asthma.**
- ☐ Dust also carries other substances which may harm a child's health, such as lead and toxic chemicals.
- ☐ **There are two main ways to control dust in the house:**
  - 1) don't let it get into the house (control track-in)**
  - 2) get rid of the dust in the house by effective cleaning**
- ☐ **To control track-in of dust:**
  - 1) take shoes off as soon as you enter the door and store the shoes near the doorway**
  - 2) use a good, commercial-quality door mat inside the doorway (we will give you one)**
- ☐ To get rid of dust in the house:
  - 1) vacuum regularly: twice a week in the child's room and weekly in the rest of the house**
  - 2) dust regularly (more on this at the next visit)
  - 3) clean rugs regularly (more on this at the next visit)
- ☐ It may take a lot of time to get the dust out of the house the first time, but once the house is clean, it's quick and easy to keep it clean.
- ☐ **How to use dust mats**
  - 1) place in proper location inside main entrance doorway
  - 2) make sure everyone, including kids, uses them: wipe feet twice when entering the door.
  - 3) demonstrate wiping feet twice
  - 4) vacuum top once a month: take outside, place on clean and hard surface, vacuum on back, set the mat aside and vacuum up the dust, lay the mat down again and

then vacuum the front. Repeat this and clean the back and front once more time each.

#### ❑ **How to vacuum**

- 5) Turn the vacuum on and off using the switch. If you turn it off by pulling out the plug, the dirt finder light will stay on and the battery will run down.
- 6) Check bag before each use and replace bag when 3/4 full. Save the bags in a grocery bag so I can weigh them at my next visit. Weighing the bags will let us see how much dust we are getting rid of.
- 7) Pick up large pieces of trash and debris before vacuuming.
- 8) Vacuum three foot square in forward and back motion until green light comes on and stays on. If the light doesn't come on after 15-30 minutes, it means that there is lots of deep dust.

Here is the way to move the vacuum when you vacuum an area:



Go back and forth once over one strip, then move the vacuum to the right and go back and forth over the next strip, until the whole area is covered. The start over again on the left and repeat the whole pattern until the green light comes on.

- 9) When entire area has a "green" light, vacuum from side of room to cross over area from another direction. Vacuum until "green" light goes on.
- 10) Move to next square and repeat. If each square takes a long time to clean, you can work on one square at a time. They don't have to all be done in the same day. The areas nearest the door will take longest to clean, so you might start in the middle of the room. It is better to clean a small area well than to try to clean a large area and not get to the bottom of the pile of dust in the carpet.
- 11) Using the vacuum on bare floors: the vacuum works well for cleaning bare floors. Set the slide knob to BARE FLOORS and use the same cleaning pattern as for cleaning carpets.
- 12) Using the vacuum on rugs: use the BARE FLOORS setting. If there are fringes, use the dusting brush on the hose and vacuum parallel to the fringes.
- 13) Using the vacuum to dust: use cleaning wand with dusting brush for books, table tops, lamps, baseboards, fringes of area rugs, drapes. Set the knob to CLEANING TOOLS when using the hose for dusting.
- 14) Using the vacuum to clean furniture: use furniture nozzle.
- 15) Use the crevice tool for cracks.
- 16) Keep away from rug fringe, blind cords, string, yarn, coins, paper clips, gum, electrical cords (including one from vacuum cleaner).
- 17) Never vacuum water or other liquids or wet objects.

- 18) If cord gets caught in vacuum, turn off switch on vacuum, unplug immediately and release cord. If damaged, repair or replace cord.
- 19) Unplug cord at wall and pull only on plug, not on the cord. If plug comes loose from cord, replace it.
- 20) Rewind cord after each use

☐ **Demonstrate how to vacuum**

☐ **Ask client to try vacuum and all the attachments**

- ☐ Cleaning can set off allergies and asthma by temporarily raising dust in the air
- 1) Your child with asthma should not be in the room when you are cleaning it and should wait 20 minutes for the dust to settle before going back into the room
  - 2) If the person doing the cleaning has allergies or asthma, s/he may want to use a dust mask (see dust mask protocol at end of section).

**Supplies**

- ☐ Vacuum
- ☐ Door mat
- ☐ Scale

**Referrals**

- ☐ None

## Visit Three

**Assessment**

- ☐ Assess frequency of vacuuming: is it being done twice a week in child's room and weekly in rest of house? Indicate in tracking system if not (p31).
- ☐ Do the three-spot vacuum test (see #8) on the child's bedroom rug (if no rug, do it in the room where the child spends most of his/her time. Discuss progress made since last visit (time needed for green light).
- ☐ After doing Total Dust Collected (#7), record weights on form and in computer.
- ☐ Check 1.

**Education**

☐ **Vacuum maintenance**

- 1) Using the instruction book
- 2) How to check to see how full the bag is: Open the vacuum and inspect the bag after every hour of vacuuming or when the CHECK BAG indicator sticks out in front. Change the bag when it is half full or if full bag indicator shows. If an area has a lot of dust, a bag can get half full in an hour!
- 3) How to change bags.
  - 1) Wipe sensor plate with cloth once every six months or after changing four bags.

- ☐ More discussion on using the dirt finder; why the light won't turn green.
- ☐ Demonstrate how to vacuum
- ☐ Ask client to try vacuum and all the attachments
- ☐ **Dusting and mopping: refer to General cleaning protocol**

### **Supplies**

- ☐ 4 vacuum bags
- ☐ heat vent filters (install in rooms where filters are dirty or not present per HEAL)
- ☐ scale

### **Referrals**

- ☐ none

## Visit Five

### **Assessment**

- ☐ Assess frequency of vacuuming: is it being done twice a week in child's room and weekly in rest of house? Indicate in tracking system if not (p31).
- ☐ Do the three-spot vacuum test on the child's bedroom rug (if no rug, do it in the room where the child spends most of his/her time). Discuss progress made since last visit (time needed for green light).
- ☐ After doing Total Dust Collected (#8), record vacuum bag weights on form and in computer.

### **Education**

#### **☐ Vacuum maintenance**

- 1) How to check the belt. Check belts for tightness once/month, replace when broken or slack.
  - 2) Wipe sensor plate with cloth each time bag is changed.
- ☐ Demonstrate how to vacuum
  - ☐ Ask client to vacuum

### **Supplies**

- ☐ see if more vacuum bags are needed
- ☐ scale

### **Referrals**

- ☐ none

## Visit Seven

### **Assessment**

- ☐ Assess frequency of vacuuming: is it being done twice a week in child's room and weekly in rest of house? Indicate in tracking system if not (p31).
- ☐ Do the three-spot vacuum test (see #6) on the child's bedroom rug (if no rug, do it in the room where the child spends most of his/her time). Discuss progress made since last visit (time needed for green light).
- ☐ After doing Total Dust Collected (#5), record vacuum bag weights on form and in computer.

### **Education**

- ☐ None

### **Supplies**

- ☐ see if more vacuum bags are needed
- ☐ scale

### **Referrals**

- ☐ none

## *Visit Nine*

### **Assessment**

- ☐ Assess frequency of vacuuming: is it being done twice a week in child's room and weekly in rest of house? Indicate in tracking system if not (p31).
- ☐ Do the three-spot vacuum test (see #4) on the child's bedroom rug (if no rug, do it in the room where the child spends most of his/her time). Discuss progress made since last visit (time needed for green light).
- ☐ After doing Total Dust Collected (#3), record weights on form and in computer.

### **Education**

- ☐ None

### **Supplies**

- ☐ see if more vacuum bags are needed
- ☐ scale

### **Referrals**

- ☐ none